

*A1  
Concl*

a network processor communicating with the gateway via the communication link and with a data network and operative to receive the collected call billing data in the first data structure format, [and] convert the collected call billing data from the first data structure format to a second data structure format, and transmit the call billing data in the second data structure format to the data network for billing processing.

*Sub B3  
A2*

7. (Once Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 [further comprising a] wherein the data network [communicating with the network process, and] is configured to periodically receive the call billing data in the second data structure format for billing processing.

*Sub B5  
AB*

10. (Once Amended) An apparatus for managing call billing records for users of a communications network, comprising:

a network having communications capabilities to carry user calls;

a signaling gateway communicating with the network and operative to collect call billing data resulting from the calls in a first data structure format;

a communication link coupled to the signaling gateway; and

a network processor communicating with the signaling gateway via the communication link and with a data network and operative to convert the collected call billing data from the first data structure format to a second data structure format conducive to conducting billing processing and transmit the call billing data in the second data structure format to the data network for billing processing.

11. (Once Amended) The apparatus of claim 10 [further comprising a] wherein the data network [communicating with the network processor and] is operative to periodically receive the call billing data in the second data structure format for billing processing.

*Sub B1*  
*Sub B1*  
*Sub B1*  
*AS*

14. (Once Amended) The apparatus of claim 10 [further comprising a] wherein the data network [communicating with the network process, and] is configured to receive the call billing data in the second data structure format for billing processing.

17. (Once Amended) A method of managing call billing records of users of a communications network comprising:

providing a first computer device, a second computer device, and a communication link, the first computer device communicating with the network and the second computer device communicating with the first computer device via the communication link and with a data network;

collecting call billing data with the first computer device in a first data structure format; transferring the call billing data using a data communications protocol from the first computer device to the second computer device; [and]

converting the call billing data with the second computer device from the first data structure format to a second data structure format; and

transmitting the call billing data in the second data structure format to the data network for billing processing.

*Sub B1*  
*Sub B1*  
*AS*  
*ple*  
*cont*

22. (Once Amended) A method of managing call billing records generated from usage within a communications network by users, comprising:

providing a signaling gateway communicating with the network and a network processor communicating with the signaling gateway and with a data network;

collecting call billing data with the signaling gateway in a first data structure format;

transferring the call billing data using a data communications protocol from a signaling gateway to the network processor; [and]

converting the call billing data with the network processor from the first data structure format to a second data structure format conducive to processing billing information; and